

REMARKS

By this amendment, claims 2, 3, 9 and 13 have been canceled. Claims 1, 14 and 15 have been amended. Claims 1, 4-8, 10-12 and 14-20 remain in the application. Support for the amendments can be found the specification and drawings. No new matter has been added. This application has been carefully considered in connection with the Examiner's Action. Reconsideration, withdrawal of the final action, and allowance of the application, as amended, is respectfully requested.

Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 13-15 stand objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Allowability of claims 13-15 is noted with appreciation. In lieu of rewriting claim 13 in independent form, claim 1 has been amended to include the limitations of claim 13. Accordingly, claim 1 is in *prima facie* condition for allowance. Claim 13 has been canceled. Claims 14 and 15, previously dependent from claim 13, have been amended to depend from claim 1, as amended. Accordingly, claims 14 and 15 are also in *prima facie* condition for allowance.

Rejection under 35 U.S.C. §103

Claims 1, 4-8, 10-12 and 16-20 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over **Klayman** (US 5,784,468) in view of **Taylor** (US 4,778,027). With respect to claim 1, as presented herein above, the same has been amended to include the limitations of the objected to but allowable dependent claim 13 (now canceled). Accordingly, claim 1 is in *prima facie* condition for allowance and an early formal notice thereof is requested.

Claims 4-8, 10-12 and 16-20 depend from and further limit independent Claim 1 and therefore are allowable as well. The 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) rejection thereof has now been overcome.

Conclusion

Except as indicated herein, the claims were not amended in order to address issues of patentability and Applicants respectfully reserve all rights they may have under the Doctrine of Equivalents. Applicants furthermore reserve their right to reintroduce subject matter deleted herein at a later time during the prosecution of this application or a continuation application.

It is clear from all of the foregoing that independent claim 1 is in condition for allowance. Claims 4-8, 10-12 and 14-20 depend from and further limit independent claim 1 and therefore are allowable as well.

The amendments herein are fully supported by the original specification and drawings; therefore, no new matter is introduced. An early formal notice of allowance of claims 1, 4-8, 10-12 and 14-20 is requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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